

NO. 1482. MONDAY, JULY 19, 1892.
"KADAM BUEYAS." (Cerro)
THURSDAY, JULY 19, 1892.

Chamber of Deputies.

There were 31 members at yesterday's session. After reading the act of last session, a motion was made from the National Executive touching the Cordoba railway. The diploma of Sr. Ocampo for his services was opposed by Sr. Riera. Riera's motion was carried by a majority. On a division the vote was as follows:

For its admission—18.—Against it—12.

The president then proposed the election of a President and Vice for the Chamber, the present officers being only up to a provisional majority. The members voted *en bloc*; the following being named for President: *Messrs* Padin Obispo, J. C. Obispo and Castro; the first obtained a majority and was therefore re-elected. For Vice the candidates were *Messrs* Albarinos, Urbina, Castro, Goroategui and Marín; the last had a large majority and was elected 1st Vice. For 2nd Vice, Sr. Castro had 13 votes, Sr. Urbina 12.

The order of the day was the project of the National Customs presented by the Minister of Finance which was ably opposed by Dr. J. C. Obispo, informing commissioners as extremely convenient to the national welfare, by making uniform the dues of the Republic and facilitating the exercise of the National authority in every province, more particularly in Corrientes and Entre Ríos.

The first bill read thus:

"The National Executive shall immediately enter into the full possession and administration of whatever belongs, according to the Constitution, to National Government."

All objects included in the treaty of 1859, and especially reserved in that of 1860 shall remain Provincial property.

At the 1st of January the National Government shall receive such sum from the public revenues which shall be required for the provincial budget, which comprises the same liabilities, the foreign debt.

Sr. Elizalde objected that this measure would deprive Buenos Aires of many institutions guaranteed to her by former compacts, such as the University, public schools &c.; and considered it ought to give to the Executive the Customs and Customs of this province.

Sr. Goroategui declared that the University was a provincial institution, and was never affected by the present bill. Sr. Marín said: My colleague [Elizalde] is alarmed at placing in the hands of the National Congress took that University and schools, that we would turn the children into the streets; for we might soon be ourselves, he said, or we could consider our Chamber should take all the duty in giving to National Executive the ways and means of the country, and we would be at present to leave the law to a single soldier to take his National authority, and to the forces of the provinces. He then went on to talk of the necessity of having a permanent secretary, or resource provided, to support the same.

The Minister of Finance said: This project has at least been presented by the Government, and has been submitted to every consideration. It is not a matter of opinion, but of principle, and must be for the necessities of the occasion. We had in

cluded to call first for the resolution of the Customs law, but the committee thought fit to present the project in question, as a preliminary measure.

Sr. Jarmel said—A bill should not include the foreign debt, which is of its nature between a Nation and a foreign power.

Minister of Finance said: I admit that in theory the objection is valid, but unfortunately the Argentine Government felt that the bondholders would have no confidence in any government but that of B. Ayres. A few days ago the *London Standard*, in which the attractions of the Cordoba railway distinctly aver that they will agree to the terms on condition of having the special guarantee of B. Ayres. Moreover, this debt was contracted in the name of this province, not of the nation. In regard to the 1859 and 1860 debt was reserved, as being an element of power, a sign of credit, which B. Ayres would not abandon.

The second bill was then read.

We have already noticed it, as informing the National Customs, abolishing differential duties and foreign tariff reductions.

On general reading, the following debate took place:

Sr. Goroategui—In discussing this bill, the house will please remember that it is necessary of informing the National Customs of the absolute state of disorder besetting us by the Parana Government, and the sanitary reform hereby introduced.

Sr. Elizalde insisted on the expediency of amending Art. 1, by expressing the Customs law of Buenos Ayres, which is in proposed to be enforced throughout the Republic.

The Minister of Finance said: This is a special statute *ad hoc*, merely intended to disarm free transit for goods destined for the interior.

—Here we do not even to question any fine points of administration or tariff, but to pass a measure of primary and immediate necessity, which will reduce the duties of National Exchanges, and free development of trade. The tariffs of Buenos Ayres and the provincial ones are the same.

Sr. Elizalde again said: The subject of this bill as comprising two subjects of a totally different character, viz., the tariff and the foreign debt, should be discussed separately, as the 7th article of the constitution already we have, the present bill is inadvisable.

Dr. Breaux (Scha) replied that he would be obliged to apply the law of Buenos Ayres to every part of the province.

—The Minister of Finance insisted on the expediency of amending the bill, by adding to the National Customs, the duties of the interior, and the duties of the foreign exchange.

Sr. Jarmel objected to two measures giving some facility to the duties of the province, and to the hope the Government should not be in a position to supplying the city with clean water, out of the same source.

Minister of Finance—This is sheer nonsense; why does not the house's matter propose to dry the city?

Sr. Jarmel—You must suppress the phrase "Estado de Buenos Ayres."

Minister of Finance—The Government has sanctioned, of late, any document except with the words: "Provincia de B. Ayres." The printing-office [Tribuna] erroneously omitted the phrase "Estado de B. Ayres."

—To be continued.

The National Customs House.

This subject being at present before Congress, and moreover a matter of some importance to our Foreign merchants, we deem it proper to say a few words on the subject.

The object of the bill before the house is to make all the tariff throughout the Argentine Republic alike and bind upon the legislative action of the Customs House of Buenos Aires.

Furthermore that all duties payable shall be made either in the current paper money of Buenos Ayres, or in gold or silver, current in each individual province.

Corrientes is the only Province which boasts of paper currency; but even there the actual value of this money is, nobly, not even the Secretary of the Bolsa, knows it may be 16 to an ounce of gold, and must be used as to be a sort of extortive of Corrientes, and never makes its appearance here.

From yesterday's *Revista* we learn that the historic recollection of this currency, should enhance its value, and this morning college animated with the most patriotic sentiment, applied to the members of Congress, to limit; it throughout all the Customs Houses in the Confederation.

We cannot of course say what action the house will take on the matter; this paper money was issued to help along Generals Lavalle and Paz, and probably keep the revolutionaries from merely to perpetuate their ruin.

But the whole principle of the law so far as it recognizes, as a federal money, paper currency in any other province, is surrounded with objections which even revolutionary associations cannot overcome.

No doubt the Province or State of each has a constitutional right to establish Banks without the intervention of Congress.

The only power left to Congress in such matters is that of assent; we are now asked to surrender.

If they lead the Provinces into temptation by giving a legal currency to every provincial shin-plaster, they will be making life miserable for the Argentine Republic to hopeless bankruptcy. This is what we are doing at last, and it will require the sagacity and prudence of our Ministers to elude such a little in financial matters.

Correntine paper dollars if ever brought here, must be sold at a heavy discount, if the nominal value is to be maintained. Mr. Jarmel said that the Corrientes money every week, than will lead a far sized bag, to bring it up the Paraná, for it is clear, people are far going to pay duties in Buenos Ayres paper if they can manage to pay the same tariffs in a cheaper currency.

The present paper-money is bad enough, but we must, under all our circumstances, that we don't regard, for it is clear, people are far going to pay duties in Buenos Ayres paper if they can manage to pay the same tariffs in a cheaper currency.

Legal grievances.

The cleaning of the Argentine cities was nothing in comparison to the reforming of our city tribunals. Old law regulations, and half-broken by laws now here in this city, advancement and commerce, simply because we want the genius of a Tataro

or the persevering assiduity of a Sogdian, in the building of a city.

Mock actions have been prohibited by law in both England and the States. Mock courts and mock registers ought to be abolished in Buenos Aires.

We have every respect for the judges of the Cables, and for the judges, for we know, men of profound learning and considerable industry. The decisions in one or two commercial suits, which have brought up appeal before them, prove that they have never stolen a shilling; or that the law in this country is doctrinally opposed to every known principle of either State or Commonwealth in England.

To go into the merits of these cases is not at present our object but to call public attention to the insupportable difficulties which attend the sale, the transfer or mortgage of real estate in Buenos Ayres. An experienced house and land agent, assures us that it requires close to 12 months and often longer to conclude a loan on bond and mortgage in this City.

This is a sad state of things, and calls loudly for reformation. They who hold real estate in this city, run off their feet for a few months, and they find it impossible to raise, except on payment of the most unendurable fees, and after delays and procrastination which in no other part of the world can be equalled.

But if this were the only dark side of the question, we might have less cause of complaint. So far from it; a system of registration of deeds, &c., is in the hands of the city, which the King of Dahomey would be ashamed of.

These title deeds to property, which in every civilised part of the globe are guarded and watched, with the most scrupulous care, by the government, in edifices which cost a life and profit, and which are every possible preventive taken against a thief, are, in our case, as title-deeds, we say, are copied into a set of books in the scrivener's office, which may be seen knocking about in the most democratic confusion, from 9 to 4 every day in the year, Sundays and holidays if you except.

This wild carelessness of documents, which in every other country are regarded as sacred, and every effort strained to be them imperishable, has entailed considerable loss on more than one property holder in town; besides, it aggravates the necessary delay of making title deeds, by obliging the purchaser to wait through every scrivener's office in town, to find out if any incumbrance exists, or not, has been to defeat the title of the seller.

It is almost incredible how we have got going, and under this law Spanish system, but this is no reason why we should continue so. The Government should make a proper suitable Registry Office, which will even witness the ravages of time, where every deed of sale or mortgage should be entered, and every change of ownership, and every instrument in record can be found out, and the title to a property can be safely passed in a week. Such a measure would benefit both natives and foreigners, it would cause real titles to increase in value, and stand as the most secure of growing money on the description of property will be facilitated; it will also leave less room for fraud, and render title deeds not so liable to disfigurement or total destruction, as at present.

On the other hand, the city tribunals, and half-broken by laws now here in this city, advancement and commerce, simply because we want the genius of a Tataro

Ontrages by Public Officers.

July 16th 1892.

Dear Sir,—The attention of the public has lately been drawn to a series of acts of violence, no longer committed, as one would be likely to suppose, by that class of desperate characters who break no restraint, and adhere to the policy of the impunity of their brutal passions. It is, however, men we look up to for protecting against the outrages of cruelty, that is to say, by the agents of the law themselves.

A few days ago we were told that a charged police officer, although on his guard for his resistance to the police.

A little later we were yourself, I believe, witness to the unmerciful beating of a refractory coachman, by one of the so-called vigilantes, for having trespass of the space allotted to him, by the police regulations; and, if I mistake not, you present to the police officers, against such unnecessary brutality, when they were severely reprimanded by the two acts of public justice, that he had a right to blow out the delinquent's brains. And yesterday, again, appears, in your copy of the police regulations, that a police officer, who was guilty of violence in ever heard of in a civilized town. In this case a man, ignorant of the regulations or customs of the city, as well as his might be, is nearly bayoneted by a sentinel, and has his horse killed outright, for not immediately attending to a written order of that important variety.

Now, I should like to know whether the police agents have received such instruction from their superiors, as to enforce the lives of the possible inhabitants of the city, for the sake of the police, and the pain of death, for the slightest breach of some obscure and unknown by-law? Is a drunken porter or forward coachman, who has rather a confused idea of his right place in this stand; or, again, a jolly sailor, who is more than a little tipsy, and who is not in his right mind at the proper time, to be these useful members of society, as I am to be or you of it, for such infringements of police regulations as would be met with the fine of a guinea in London, or of 2 francs in Paris?

It is high time that the attention of the Government was called to this alarming state of things, and that the public should know whether we are in time of peace or of war. Buenos Ayres declared in a state of siege, no severe order could be given to the police, and no order of the kind in such strict execution, to the risk of both flesh and bone.

We would sincerely advise the authorities of this town, who, we doubt not, are really anxious to protect the peaceful population of the city, to show a little more consideration to the security of their own security, and to not give orders to shoot honest citizens, in order to intimidate a few doubtful characters.

In no European city are police agents empowered to make use of live weapons, and we consider our security not so jeopardized by such means than procured to our satisfaction.

I hope these observations, which are such as occur to men of sound judgment, will meet with a kind and judicious solution of your paper journal.

Believe me, dear sir,
Yours truly,
P. FORNABIAN,
Editor of "La Prose."

